

GA#38281

The Honorable Rodney Slater  
Secretary  
U. S . Department of Transportation  
400 7th Street SW, Room PL-401  
Washington, D.C. 20590

CC Senator Durbin  
Senator Moseley-Braun  
Congressman

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION  
PROJECT SECTION  
98 JUL 23 PM 2:53

15 July, 1998

RE: Docket OST-1998-3713-729  
"Policy Statement Regarding Unfair Exclusionary Practices"

Dear Secretary Slater,

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The Hub and Spoke system, which enables air carriers to succeed in the de-regulated environment, is dependent on spokes feeding traffic into hubs. As such, the major carriers seek to identify and serve spoke business to connect at hubs for longer range air transport. If guidelines prevent major carriers from competing for that spoke business, the system may fail. If you restrict the number of seats an incumbent is allowed to offer at reduced fare, you will restrict the benefits of **competitive** selection available to the consumer, and may thwart the positive impact that de-regulation produced. On an average, consumers are paying 33% less (adjusting for inflation) for air travel than they did under regulation. Since 1990 alone, consumer prices in general have risen twenty percent faster than the average air fare. The savings are not limited to lower air fares, a Brookings Institute study estimates that efficient connections through hubs saves consumers considerable time, and placed a value of \$10 Billion per year on that time.

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If action is necessary to prevent unfair competitive practices, let that be accomplished by the Department of Justice who should enforce the existing anti-trust laws. Don't replace the free market choice of consumers with arbitrary and expensive governmental interference.

Sincerely,  


4343 W Anderson Ave  
Chicago, IL 60613

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Senator Moseley-Braun  
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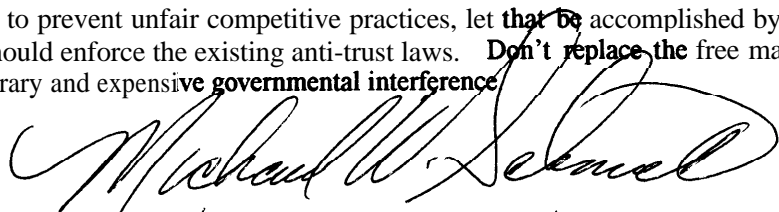
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7609-50TH AVE  
KEWASHA WI 53143

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Sincerely,

*Paul Brand*

*5723 W. Ireland  
Chicago*

*ORDKQ*

*60630*

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SS. 512 Batavia  
Warrenville, IL 60555

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Sincerely,

*Donna Wing Lewis*  
1418 S. STATE  
CHGO IL 60605

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Sincerely,

T. Brown  
34 W. Briarwood  
Streamwood  
IL 60107

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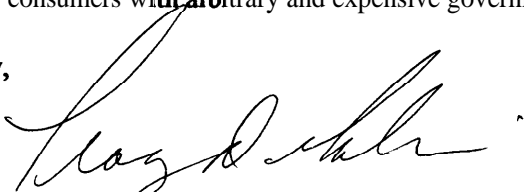
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6702 N. Sheridan Rd  
Chicago, Ill 60626

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*Jan R. Thoman*  
17627 MEADOW BROOK  
WILLOWOOD ILL 60030



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*Paul Hulland*  
2437 Forest View  
River Grove, IL 60171

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120 N. Lakeview Dr.  
Bloomington, IL 61808

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400 7th Street SW, Room PL-401  
Washington, D.C. 20590

CC: Senator Durbin  
Senator Moseley-Braun  
Congressman

15 July, 1998

RE: **Docket OST-1998-3713**  
**"Policy Statement Regarding Unfair Exclusionary Practices"**

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION  
DOCKET SECTION  
98 JUL 23 PM 2:53

Dear Secretary Slater,

I am writing as one of 90,000 stakeholders of United Airlines in the U.S., and about your proposed guidelines for fair competition among airlines. The air transport industry experienced substantial upheaval twenty years ago, when it was de-regulated, and the country profited greatly from the result. We must not take a step backward, and yield free market preferences to government interference. A move to re-regulate this dynamic **industry** will have disastrous impact on consumers, airline employees, and communities now served by competitive air carriers.

When the industry was de-regulated, some carriers failed. That was because they did not adapt to the competitive environment, they were accustomed to doing business with protection by the government, and did not **refocus** on providing a competitive product in an intensely competitive industry. At United Airlines, most of us gave up benefits and took salary cuts to allow our company to be competitive and efficient in the new and exciting arena of the **free** market for our services. We, at United, are now the **largest** ESOP in the nation, and have been successful competing against other carriers who are free to enter the market. The changes you propose will alter the terrain as this industry moves, and may lead to shrinkage rather than growth, especially in the small communities you propose to help.

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If action is necessary to prevent **unfair** competitive practices, let that be accomplished by the Department of Justice who should enforce the existing anti-trust laws. Don't replace the free market choice of consumers with arbitrary and expensive governmental interference.

Sincerely,

*Scott McLeod*  
1927 Jefferson St.  
Portage, In. 46368

The Honorable Rodney Slater  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
400 7th Street SW, Room PL-401  
Washington, D.C. 20590

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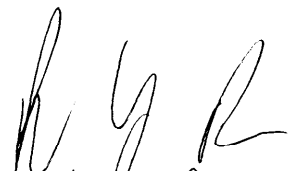
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Sincerely,

  
Richard Azerekas  
110 MAKENGO  
FOREST PARK, IL. 60130

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Secretary  
U.S. **Department** of Transportation  
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Washington, D.C. 20590

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Sincerely,

*M. G. Durbin*  
1162 A George Ave.  
Bensenville, IL 60106

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Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
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Washington, D.C. 20590

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Sincerely,   
490 E. Vallette  
Elmhurst, IL 60126

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Senator Moseley-Braun  
Congressman

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U. S . Department of Transportation  
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Sincerely,

Kelly SHAWLER - Richardson  
7922 S Yale  
Ches. H 60620

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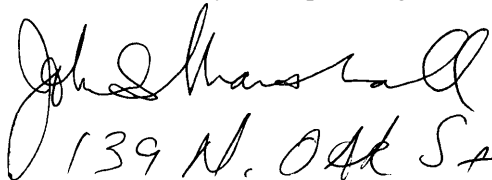
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Sincerely,

  
139 N. Oak St  
ELMHURST, IL  
60126

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DOCKET SECTION  
98 JUL 23 PM 2:42



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Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
400 7th Street SW, Room **PL-401**  
Washington, D.C. 20590

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Senator Moseley-Braun  
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Sincerely,

Kanta Patel  
8834 Dee Road  
Des Plaines Ill. 60016

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Senator Moseley-Braun  
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U. S . Department of Transportation  
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BARTLET ILL 60103

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400 7th Street SW, Room PL-401  
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Sincerely,

*James H. Leitura*  
15345 SHEFFIELD LN.  
ORLANDO FL. 32832

CC: Senator Durbin  
Senator Moseley-Braun  
Congressman

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**Secretary**  
U. S . Department of Transportation  
400 7th Street SW, Room **PL-401**  
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BLD. 8511 Apt. 1N  
WEST Gregory St.  
Chicago IL 60656-1220